

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

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SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2415

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, SG

SUBJECT: DATA FOR YEAR 2000 STUDY

REF: STATE 002024

1. PER PARA 1, 2, 3, OF REFTEL, AMEMBASSY HAS SKETCHY DATA THIS PROBLEM. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED HERE FROM LOCAL SOURCES, A FEW STUDIES AVAILABLE, AND GOS FIFTH QUADRIENNIAL PLAN. SECTION A. FORESTRY DEGRADATION: EAUX ET FORETS REPORTS SHOW TIME APPROXIMATELY 100,000 TONS OF CHARCOAL ARE CONSUMED ANNUALLY FOR FUEL IN SENEGAL. OF THIS, 80 PERCENT IS USED IN THE CAP VERT REGION. THIS REPRESENTS 500,000 TONS OF WOOD OR ALL THE WOOD PRODUCED ON 10,000 HA. OF UNCLASSIFIED FORESTS. AT PRESENT EAUX ET FORETS REPORTS ALL UNCLASSIFIED FOREST IN THE CAP VERTATHIES AREA ARE DEPLETED. EAUX ET FORETS DEFINES UNCLASSIFIED DEPLETED FORESTS AS ONE WHERE ALL FIRST GROWTH WOOD HAS BEEN REMOVED AND SHRUBS HAVE TAKEN OVER. THIS TUPE GROWTH WILL YIELD .5 TO .7 TONS OF CHARCOAL PER HA. PER YEAR WHERE AS A PROPERLY MANAGED FOREST UNDER AVERAGE SENEGAL CONDITIONS WILL YIELD 5.5 TO 7 TONS OF CHARCOAL PER YEAR PER HA. EAUX ET FORETS FURTHER ESTIMATES THAT ALL UNCLASSIFIED FORESTS IN SENEGAL WILL BE DEPLETED IN 30 YEARS AT THE PRESENT RATE.

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2. INDICATIONS IN REPORTS ARE THAT IN ADDITION TO THE HEAVY FUEL REQUIREMENT FOR WOOD, EXTENSIVE BURNING AND UNCONTROLLED GRAZING ARE DOING AS MUCH DAMAGE AS RAPID HARVEST FOR CHARCOAL AND OTHER WOOD PRODUCTS. THE GOS RECOGNIZES THE PROBLEM AS REFLECTED IN THEIR FIFTH FOUR-YEAR PLAN. I.E. A PLANNED EXPEND-ITURE OF MORE THAN DOLS 40 MIL. THRU EAUX ET FORETS FOR SUCH PRO-JECTS AS FOREST SEEDLING NURSERIES, FOREST RESERVE MANAGEMENT, NEW

FOREST PRESERVES, FIRE PROTECTION, WINDBREAK AND VILLAGE WOODLOT PLANTINGS ETC. OF THIS AMOUNT, APPROXIMATELY 30 MIL. WILL NEED TO BE SECURED FROM OUTSIDE DONORS.

3. DATA WITH RESPECT TO SOIL IS WEAK. OF THE APPROXIMATELY 2,300,000 HA. OF LAND CLASSED AS PERMANENT CROPLAND, 822,000 HA. ARE BADLY ERODED FROM WIND. ON THE EROSION SCALE OF USDA, SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE CLASSED AS A 3 EROSION. BASED ON A 1 TO 5 SCALE WITH 1 BEING SLIGHT, THIS EROSION IS CRITICAL. AN ADDITIONAL 1,000,000 HA. WOULD BE CLASSED AS 2 EROSION LEVEL ON THIS SCALE. THE REMAINING APPROXIMATELY 500,000 HA. WOULD ACTUALLY GAIN SOME SOIL FROM WIND BLOWN DEPOSITS AND WATER ERODED SEDIMENT. REPORTS AND STUDIES DONE BY USAID IN PROJECT PLANNING INDICATE THE PRACTICE OF ALLOWING LAND TO LIE FALLOW IS THE EXCEPTION RATHER THAN THE RULE THUS INDICATING VERY STRONG PRESSURE ON THE LAND. THE FIFTH FOUR-YEAR PLAN ON THE GOS (1977-81) RECOGNIZES NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS. 45 MIL. DOLLARS IN PROJECTS AFFECTING BASIC FOOD CROPS (I.E. CEREALS, CROP ROTATION, FERTILIZERS ETC.) ARE BEING PLANNED. ADDITIONALLY APPROXIMATELY 50 MIL. DOLLARS ARE PLANNED FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS DURING THIS SAME PERIOD.

4. LITTLE INFORMATION EXISTS THAT WOULD SHOW ADDITIONAL LAND, OTHER THAN THROUGH IRRIGATION, IS AVAILABLE TO BRING INTO PRODUCTION. ESTIMATES OF NEW LAND THAT COULD BE IRRIGATED WITH WATER AVAILABLE OR WATER THAT COULD BE DEVELOPED WOULD NOT EXCEED 300,000 UNCLASSIFIED

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HA. AT A COST OF 5,000 DOL. PER HA. THIS WOULD REPRESENT AN INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT OF 1.5 BIL. DOLLARS. YIELD GAINS UNDER PROPER MANAGEMENT OF RAINFED AGRICULTURE, I.E. CROP ROTATION; WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES, WEED CONTROL, FERTILIZER AND BETTER VARIETIES, COULD DOUBLE YIELDS ON TRADITIONAL CROP LANDS. AS ABOVE, SOME EFFORT IS BEING MADE BY THE GOS AND OUTSIDE DONORS. COHEN

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